

Honourary degrees announced

Six winners to receive degrees.

2

Is it asking too much?

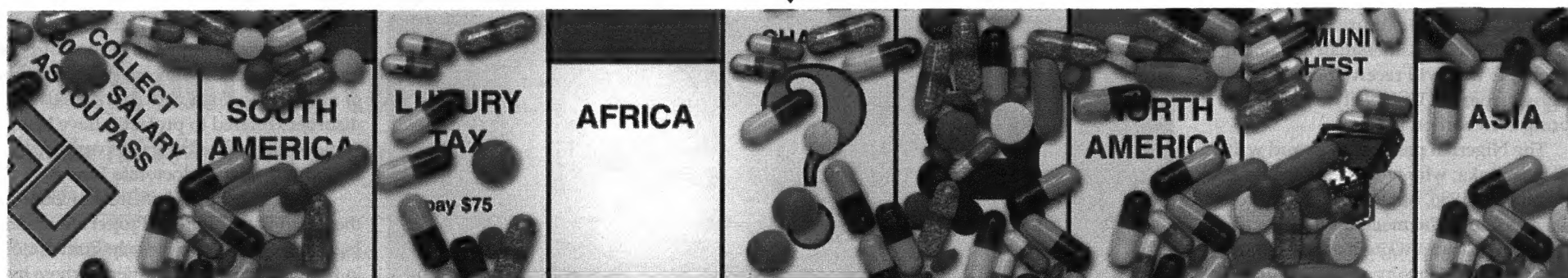
The controversy over fair distribution of drugs in the Third World rages on.

3

The point is moot

Law students win prestigious moot court cup.

7



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Orbinski slams 'new humanitarianism'

Human rights lecturer recalls horrors of war

By Ryan Smith

For the most part, Dr. James Orbinski stood steel-rod straight and delivered a cool, unflinching report of the atrocities he'd seen working as a doctor in places ravaged by war and poverty. But for a brief moment in front of a full house at Myer Horowitz Theatre, Orbinski needed to pause and gather himself.

Speaking of genocide victims he had seen in Rwanda in 1994, their hands and feet cut off so they could not climb out of mass graves they had been thrown into, and parents pleading, even paying for someone to shoot their children to end their misery and pain, Orbinski's voice cracked with emotion. "I rarely talk about this," he confessed, asserting himself after bowing his head and pawing his eyes as if to wipe away his memory's vision. "But you have to know this. It's our job as citizens to know what genocide looks like."

Orbinski, a Canadian, is the past president of Médecins sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders). He accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on the MSF's behalf in 1999 and was on campus March 6 to deliver the annual University of Alberta Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights. As well as describing the horrors he had seen, Orbinski spoke of the history of



Dr. James Orbinski says people are not commodities and aid should be given equally.

MSF, claiming that it is the MSF's mandate to help people universally and impartially, and to help them independently of political organizations.

"But we stand apart from the idea we should be neutral and remain silent in the face of crimes against humanity," Orbinski said, citing, among other examples, the Iraqi government's use of chemical weapons against Kurdish people as an example in which it would be shameful for MSF workers to remain silent.

Then Orbinski launched into a studied censure of what has become to be known as 'new humanitarianism'—the notion that humanitarian aid be delivered only if those in need meet conditions outlined by those providing aid.

"People are not commodities," he said. "They are not a means to an end, they are an end in themselves...true humanitarianism is the most apolitical of acts, but if taken seriously it has the most profound political implications."

He challenged states around the world not to look away and stay silent in the face of injustice. It is their duty to act; to ignore the suffering of others "is morally repugnant," he said.

Addressing the audience, but particularly the students in attendance, he concluded, "Embedded in this talk is the idea that it's your responsibility to stand up to injustice...all people, by their very exist-

ence, have a right to be human beings. This is not an economic issue, but an issue of freedom," he said.

"With your liberty, and through your action or inaction, you will shape the world around you. I implore you to live with courage, and not fear and false hopes, in order to make life bearable for the 'others'—our humanitarian brothers and sisters."

During a question and answer session after the speech, Orbinski advised anyone interested in volunteering for or donating to a humanitarian organization to research those organizations thoroughly. "Find out who funds the organization, what their mission is and everything else about them before you decide whether or not you want to go work for them," he said.

Following the presentation, U of A President Rod Fraser thanked Orbinski for—in the spirit of the U of A's human rights visiting lectureship—his "clear, heart-rending, unequivocal call for action."

Orbinski also addressed three groups of students—medical students, medical residents and political science students—in three separate events. ■

Campus security and city police apprehend armed suspect

By Phoebe Dey

A potentially dangerous situation was averted when campus security and the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) teamed up and arrested an armed student on the University of Alberta grounds March 7.

"Let me say first of all, that all students, faculty and staff are safe and there is no risk," Doug Owrap, vice-president (academic) and provost said at a campus news conference. "We'd like to think our precautions prevented him from getting into buildings and causing any harm."

At around 11:30 a.m., city police told university officials the suspect was on his way to campus. Police first received a tip from a taxi driver who noticed the sus-

pect was carrying a shotgun, said Dean Parthenis, spokesperson for EPS. "He was initially in a cab then car-jacked a vehicle in the north end to get to the university."

Campus officials immediately issued an alert to security officers, locked several buildings and formed a campus-wide dragnet to look for the stolen vehicle. Parking services noticed the vehicle on the north side of campus. An arrest was made within minutes, when the man returned to the stolen vehicle.

Using two plain-clothes policemen to approach the suspect was the best option, police say. "Taking the accused by surprise and tackling him was the best way to go and

obviously it turned out to be right," said Parthenis, who wasn't sure exactly which buildings were targeted. "The weapon was loaded and he had more ammunition as well as a hunting knife. He was ready to go. We know he was disgruntled about something, but we don't know what. And we're certainly thankful it worked out for the better."

Owrap said the suspect is a former student who was "excluded" from the campus in November. "I can't get into any specific incidents but exclusion occurs when there is a concern about violence."

Campus security—which is made up of 25 highly-trained officers—and several EPS officers searched the grounds for the

suspect, using a picture from a database of "certain photographs," said Brian McLeod, a retired RCMP inspector who is director of Campus Security Services.

He said that collaboration between his staff and EPS made the arrest go smoothly. "Our officers wear soft body armor and carry an extended baton," said McLeod. "They're restricted in dealing with somebody that's armed, so with this kind of incident only the Edmonton Police Service would have responded...it was an excellent partnership because it could have been a very dangerous situation."

The suspect faces several charges including weapons offences and theft. ■

Six honorary degree recipients named

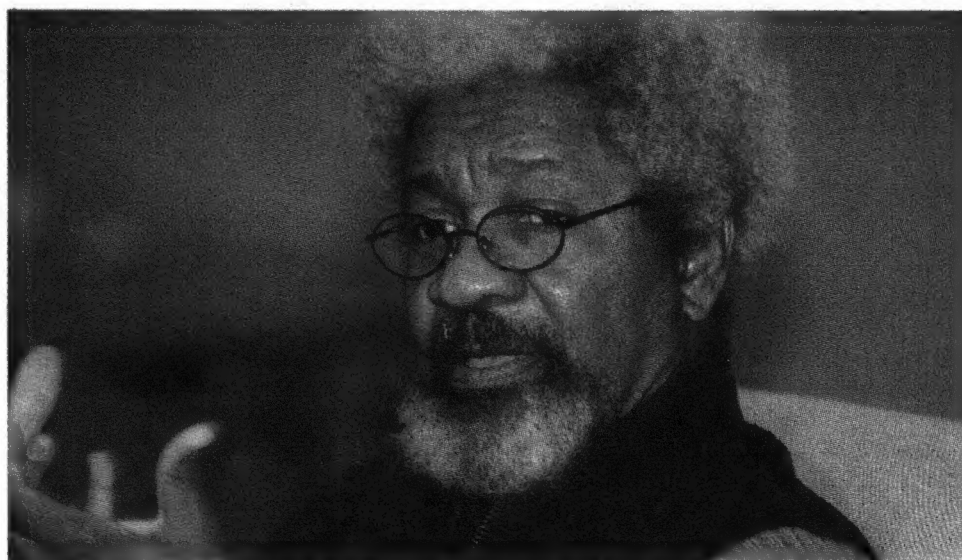
Peace activist, media authority and medical researcher among those to be awarded degrees

By Geoff McMaster

A Nobel laureate, a futurist thinker and an aboriginal businessman are among six people who will receive honorary degrees from the University of Alberta at spring convocation in June.

The Nigerian peace activist and writer Wole Soyinka, who won the Nobel Prize in literature in 1986, has been widely recognized as one of the most important and influential African writers of the 20th century. Some of his many works include *The Open Sore of a Continent*, *The Lion and the Jewell*, and *The Man Died*, a prison notebook written while in solitary confinement during the late 1960s for criticizing the Nigerian government. He receives his honorary doctorate in letters June 12.

U of A alumnus Don Tapscott is chairman of Digital 4Sight, a think-tank investigating how the Internet and new media are transforming business, government and society. Also president of New Paradigm Learning Corporation, he has been described by the *Washington Technology Report* as one of the most influential media authorities since Marshall McLuhan. He is consulted by the world's largest corporations for his expertise, and in 1992 chaired Canada's first information highway advisory council. He receives his honorary



Writer, peace activist and Nobel Prize winner Wole Soyinka will receive his Honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Alberta.

doctorate in laws June 4.

Herbert Belcourt of Edmonton is CEO of Canative Housing Corporation, and is considered a pioneer in aboriginal business developments, largely through mentoring and teaching to youth. He is highly regarded for his support and promotion of education for aboriginal peoples and has made generous donations to the University of Alberta,

the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Grant MacEwan Community College and Athabasca University. He receives his honorary doctorate in laws June 5.

One of Canada's leading medical researchers, Henry Friesen of Winnipeg made his most important contribution to science when he discovered the human hormone prolactin, and with it a simple

test to identify patients with tumors that secrete excessive amounts of the hormone. Resulting from this discovery, thousands of men and women with reproductive disorders related to prolactin have been successfully treated. He receives his honorary science doctorate June 6.

Adeline Roche of Cork, Ireland founded the Chernobyl Children's Project after receiving a desperate appeal for help from doctors in Belarus trying to help patients whose lives had been devastated by the Chornobyl nuclear disaster. The project has provided more than IRE14 million in medical aid to hospitals and orphanages in Belarus, Ukraine and Western Russia. She receives her honorary doctorate in laws June 7.

A well-respected community builder, humanitarian and philanthropist, Erast Huculak of Etobicoke, Ont. is the founder and president of Medical Pharmacies Ltd., Canada's largest supplier of pharmaceuticals to long-term health care facilities. His humanitarian goals include the purchase and donation of a building for the first Ukrainian embassy in Ottawa. After the Chornobyl nuclear disaster, he founded and directed the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund. He receives his honorary doctorate in laws June 11. ■

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Consultants to quiz staff on risk management

University wants to improve long-term vision and be prepared for obstacles

By Richard Cairney

The University of Alberta is taking a new approach planning for the future. And this month, a handful of staff will be asked about how the university operates in an effort to see whether we're taking stock of risks involved in meeting university goals.

Up to 40 university staff will be interviewed personally and approximately 400 will be randomly selected to fill out an anonymous, on-line survey about how the university draws and executes plans.

"This is risk assessment in the broadest possible sense. It is everything from the risks we might see in the liability we may encounter through our actions or lack of actions, to having the resources to do the things we want to," said Dr. Art Quinney, chair of the university's risk assessment steering committee.

"The U of A wishes to see itself as one of the top universities in Canada, and to be recognized as such internationally. So our

reputation is important to us. What we are trying to do is understand and reduce uncertainties in the broad range of activities we undertake."

Quinney uses as an example the provincial government bestowing degree-granting powers on a private university, and the U of A's response.

"What are the risks to the U of A in a changed environment? We have to understand that. When a university sets up in Calgary and Edmonton, what impacts will we face? When you understand the risks, you are able to develop a plan to deal with those risks," Quinney said.

The survey is being conducted with consultants PricewaterhouseCoopers. "Ideally, what will happen is that down the road this assessment becomes part of everyone's thinking," said Mariesa Carbone, manager of global risk management solutions for PwC.

Board passes budget, avoids deficit

Parking rates and student rents going up, research costs to be recovered

By Richard Cairney

The University of Alberta's board of governors has approved a tight budget that includes an increase in revenues to almost \$775 million from \$691 million. But the board still had to take steps to avoid a projected budget deficit of \$754,000 that will be offset in part by drawing from the university's operating reserve fund. A "modest increase" in parking rates, raising \$250,000 will also be applied to the deficit.

The budget illustrates an unusual position the university faces, in dealing with the costs associated with enormous increases in research funding. Research funds increased 64.2 per cent during the second half of the decade, to \$213.9 million last year from \$130.3 million in 1995-96, according to the budget document. Indirect costs of research, such as the upkeep of libraries, buildings and equipment, skyrocketed to approximately \$74 million last year. "Currently, this shortfall must be made up through the university's operating budget," the document says. "This simply diminishes the resources available overall."

But measures to reduce those costs were

introduced by the board during its March 2 meeting. A new policy provides incentive for researchers to include indirect costs when negotiating research contracts. Previously, researchers received no return to their own offices when recovering indirect costs. But now, the distribution of those monies has changed—principal investigators will receive an impressive 20 per cent of indirect costs they recover. That money can be used for equipment, maintaining staff between contracts, equipment repairs and other research-related needs.

Board chair Eric Newell said the federal government is considering the establishment of a new fund to help universities cover indirect research costs. University President Rod Fraser said it's a fund the U of A will continue to lobby for. "We're working with the provincial government and the federal government on that," said Fraser. "We're hoping to get them both to contribute to those indirect costs."

The budget also shows a growing trend to more earmarked funding. The level of operating funds per student, for

example, has dropped to significantly lower levels than it was two decades ago. The university plans to increase student enrolment to 37,000 students by 2010, but that notion was met with some skepticism.

"I don't know if we're going to have enough bricks and mortar," said board member Dr. Fordyce Pier.

But board chair Eric Newell expressed confidence. "Once we start getting into our four-year strategic plan we'll be able to take control of our own future," he said.

The most visible implication of the budget will be in the increased costs of university parking passes. Costs will go up \$5 per month, with the exception of stalls at the Jubilee Auditorium and others in Garneau, which will jump just \$2 per month. Daily parking rates increase to \$8 from \$6. There will be no change in rates for afternoon, evening, graveyard and motorcycle permits.

The board also approved a five-per-cent increase in student housing charges, enabling the program to continue to operate on a break-even basis. ■

Confronting the drug dilemma

Will the Third World ever get the drugs it needs?

By Geoff McMaster

"I think in 50 more years, people will be asking the same questions about the AIDS epidemic as they did about the Holocaust. How was it possible that so many people with resources and intelligence, who knew so much about AIDS, sat passively by and watched their brothers and sisters die for lack of the same medications that everyone knows can prevent the deaths of people with AIDS?"

— Richard Stern,
Agua Buena Human Rights Association,
San José, Costa Rica

As bad as the AIDS epidemic is, perhaps nothing illustrates the absurd disparity between Third World poverty and First World privilege as graphically as the case of sleeping sickness. The disease is devastating parts of war-torn central Africa. Spread by the tsetse fly, it infects an estimated 300,000 people per year, driving its victims mad before killing them. Now the cure—a drug called Eflornithine and known for more than 10 years as the "resurrection drug" because it's so effective—will be made available for one reason: it has been found to remove facial hair in women. Now it finally has a profitable use in developed nations.

Bristol-Myers Squibb recently agreed to sell Doctors Without Borders a cheap, injectable form of the drug, produced primarily as an ingredient in the pharmaceutical company's new facial cream. Sleeping sickness victims will no longer have to rely on the only other existing treatment, called Melarsoprol, which kills five per cent of those treated and corrodes the veins of the rest.

Critics of the pharmaceutical industry, while grateful for the resumption of Eflornithine production, say this case only serves to demonstrate the God-like power multinational drug companies have over life and death. They say these companies hold the keys to drastically alleviate some of the world's most serious illnesses, including AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

When former U.N. ambassador Stephen Lewis was at the University of Alberta last month, he called the major pharmaceutical conglomerates "callous, obscene and abominable," acting out of "pure, naked self-interest" in not reducing the price of anti-retroviral drugs used to treat AIDS patients.

According to Dr. James Orbinski, past president of Doctors without Borders, we are witnessing a major "power struggle" between the state's right to protect the public interest and the rights of pharmaceutical giants to protect their patents. It should, he says, be up to governments, not corporations, to decide when the people they represent need help.

The power struggle came to a head in South Africa this week. The country's pharmaceutical association—representing nearly every major drug company in the world including Bayer, Bristol-Myers

Squibb, Merck and Glaxo Wellcome—is suing the government over a 1997 law allowing the production of cheap generic drugs for emergency purposes. And emergencies aren't hard to find. Of the 36 million people worldwide infected with HIV, 25 million are in sub-Saharan Africa.

The law, enacted in 1997, has yet to be applied because of the lawsuit. And the outcome of this case, says Orbinski, will likely be a landmark decision with global implications not only for the distribution of essential drugs, but for human rights as well.

"A treatment exists, public money largely developed these therapies, and yet the majority of people with [AIDS/HIV] don't have access to the treatment—I think that's obscene," says Orbinski. "That is a profound political and market failure that is indefensible."

"The responsibilities of governments now around the world are to make sure they are not challenged when pursuing the public good, and if they are, to respond vigorously and with firmness to make sure public interest rests in the control of the public." Orbinski is calling on the Canadian government to shout out its support of South Africa loud and clear.

Marie-Helen Bonin, national coordinator for Doctors Without Borders' Access to Essential Medicines Campaign, finds the pharmaceutical position difficult to understand, especially in countries where there is virtually no market for expensive, patented drugs. "They try to make it sound like it's going to steal the market from them, but the drugs don't sell in Africa at those prices," she says.

Drug companies "are just reacting from their own point of view—short-sighted business. It's maybe not their business to solve all the problems...but when other people try to sort them out they're not happy either."

She points to a recent breakthrough offer by a generic drug company in India, called Cipla, to sell an AIDS cocktail to governments at just \$600 per year per person (and to Doctors Without Borders at \$350). That's about 97 per cent lower than the same combination available in the US for \$10,400. If the pharmacy

giants win their case, South Africa, and perhaps other countries in turn will be barred from importing the cocktail, she says.

The pharmaceutical industry claims that the protection of intellectual property rights is vital for the survival of research, and to develop new treatments to fight the world's deadliest diseases. Allowing generic drugs to flow freely across borders would undermine those patents. Furthermore, it says, blaming drug companies for a distribution problem that has any number of deep-seated causes—including political instability, bureaucracy, poor health infrastructure, corruption and other education and social obstacles—is misguided and unfair. The industry has taken on a number of philanthropic initiatives in recent years, such as lowering the cost of AIDS drugs to about \$1,000 per person per year in some cases and distributing free

drugs for diseases such as river blindness and malaria.

"By focusing exclusively on the protection of intellectual property and the research-based pharmaceutical industry in the process, we, as a society, miss the target," writes Murray J. Elston, president of Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies, in an editorial sent last week to Canada's daily newspapers. "It is imperative that intellectual property rights be protected so that the revenues from these products can be used to support research into new and better products for diseases, including those that particularly affect the developing world."

Former U of A pharmacy dean John Bachynsky supports this view, but only to a point. "Some of the companies have intellectual property rights and push them pretty hard, and I think sometimes they do it in a pretty stupid way," he says.

But he agrees progress depends on a profit incentive and that research simply costs a lot of money. "I don't know if you can have it both ways. You can't say, 'well, we're going to restrict your profits and you're going to do a lot more research and produce a lot more products.' " He adds that a company like Cipla, while appearing humanitarian, "makes a hell of a lot more profit than the originator, and that bothers me."

Reducing drug prices isn't necessarily the answer, argues Bachynsky. Most people in developing countries "can't afford the reduced rate either...My feeling is that even if [pharmacy companies] pumped in a whole bunch of cheap drugs and said, 'now you package, distribute and make use of them,' the whole thing would collapse." Once you add those costs, he says, "the cost per unit starts growing pretty quickly."

Orbinski admits there are serious barriers to delivering anti-retroviral drugs where they are needed most. But he rejects the notion that high profits are necessary to fuel research and development. He points out that between 30 and 60 per cent of the basic R and D for anti-retroviral drugs was funded by public money in the United States and Europe. "The claim that high prices are justified in order to recoup R and D costs is just not true."

He also compares the pharmaceutical industry's own cost estimate for research and development—roughly \$500 million per drug—with an independent estimate that puts the cost at somewhere between \$14 million and \$250 million.

Pharmaceutical companies "refuse to make their cost-estimates of how they actually arrived at that figure open to public scrutiny. They say it's proprietary information, but they expect the public to simply accept that number." The court case in Pretoria has now, in fact, been postponed until April to allow the pharmaceutical companies to justify the cost of developing drugs.

Orbinski also refuses to accept the industry's claim to humanitarian motivation. He says drug companies only grant concessions under intense public and

political pressure, the kind of pressure Doctors Without Borders and other non-government organizations have worked hard to exert. And while there may be myriad contributing factors to the access problem, he says the solution starts with lower prices.

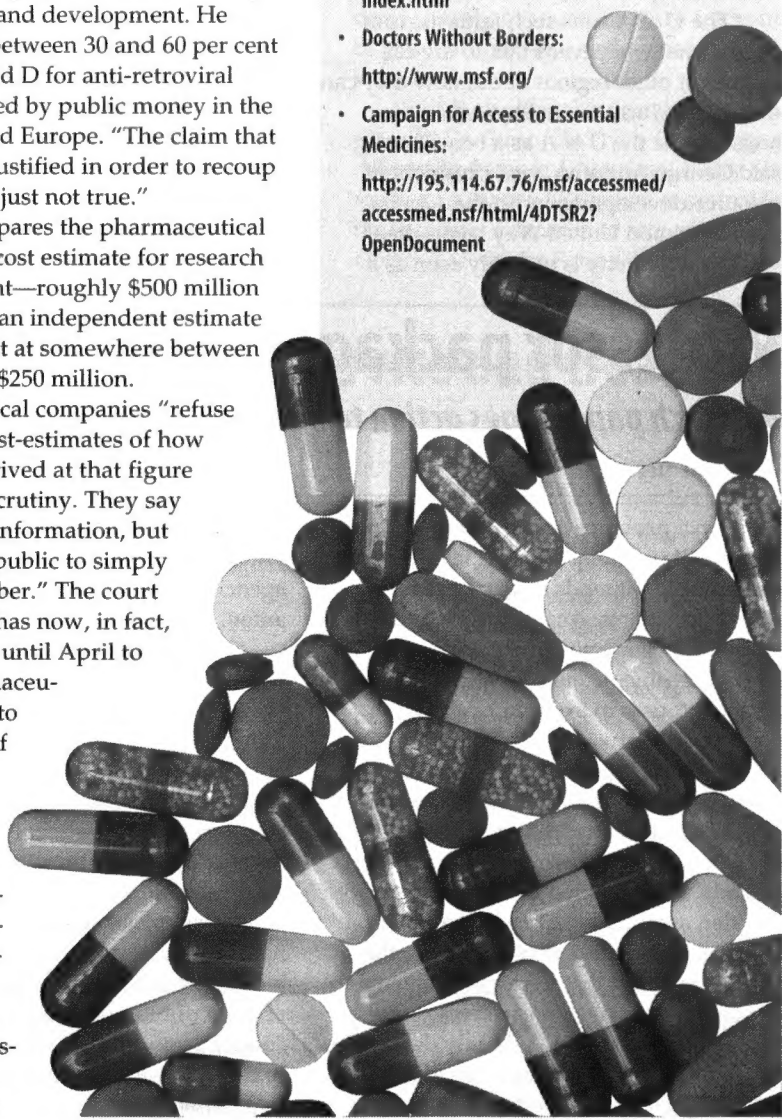
Dr. Laura Shanner, a bioethicist with the U of A's John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, agrees drug companies have a long way to go before expecting anyone to believe their profit margins are threatened, or that they are genuinely committed to a humanitarian campaign to increase access to drugs. On the other hand, she says, it's far too easy for people in "over-privileged" developed nations to point the finger without taking any responsibility themselves.

"To say the pharmaceutical company has to take the hit, well, realistically their profit margin has room to be reduced in a humanitarian effort," says Shanner. "But so does my personal profit margin in my RRSPs or other investments."

"If we're trying to target a specific group, it's an awfully big demand. If we take it on, every one of us, as a purchaser of technologies, as a stockholder in companies, as a citizen and taxpayer to the government, it's up to us to say, 'I'm not willing to let these people suffer and die without even noticing or caring.' If we're serious about social justice it's a radical reordering of the entire world. And our lives will change significantly. We are naturally motivated not to accept those changes, but we're going to have to accept the fact that it's time to share." ■

For more information on this subject, consider these Web resources:

- Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies:
<http://www.canadapharma.org/en/whatsnew/index.html>
- Doctors Without Borders:
<http://www.msf.org/>
- Campaign for Access to Essential Medicines:
<http://195.114.67.76/msf/accessmed/accessmed.nsf/html/4DTSR2?OpenDocument>



Author encourages us to take responsibility for our own health

Gary McPherson's own experience relates to every one of us

By Geoff McMaster

Gary McPherson was 43 years old when he finally struck out on his own. He'd been living in hospitals since contracting polio, at the age of nine. But now that he was finally married, it was time to set up a home with his wife.

Leaving the security of his institutional environment, however, where all his needs were cared for, was probably the biggest challenge of McPherson's life. As a quadriplegic, every detail of day-to-day living seemed to be of Herculean proportions.

"It was a huge adjustment," he says. "The minute you move out, it all becomes your responsibility, including your care and how you pay for it. So that was psychologically a pretty big hurdle to overcome, and that's probably why I delayed it."

This life-transforming move forced McPherson—a part-time lecturer in physical education at the University of Alberta and executive director of the Canadian Centre for Social Entrepreneurship—to think deeply about health and health care. It may be curious irony, but he claims "it wasn't until I got out that I realized I didn't learn anything about health when I was in the hospital."

He came to the conclusion that a lot of things are wrong with the way we think about health.

"When it comes to health, we are left to fend for ourselves and for our families," he writes in his newly-released book, *With Every Breath I Take*, published by Double M Brokerage Ltd. "But we haven't been taught how to do this. We have grown up in a

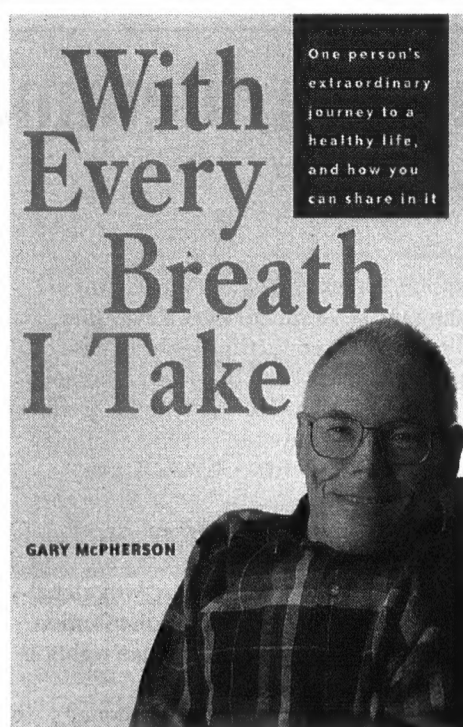
culture that has promoted a dependency on professionals, drugs, antibiotics and junk food...To me the message is clear, and the message is, we must first take care of ourselves by taking care of our health."

As McPherson admits, there are probably few people in the country who have precisely his perspective on health, because he actually grew up within the system. That system may have its flaws, but he has certainly never let them hold him back. He doesn't know why victims of polio tend to be classic over-achievers, but his own case is a shining example.

To list just few of his achievements, McPherson created a partnership in a computer software company with roommates at the University Hospital, helped Dr. Bob Steadward organize the first Canadian wheelchair games, became a leader in adapted physical activity and was selected to participate in the 1991 Governor General's Canadian Study Conference. He has received a whole slew of awards and been inducted into both the Edmonton and Alberta Sports Halls of Fame.

In the words of Steadward, McPherson has "pushed the University of Alberta and many communities into recognizing and understanding the needs and desires of persons with disabilities...Although he lived in an institutional environment for 34 years, his ideals and visions relate to each one of us."

McPherson felt his take on life and health was unique enough to share. That's why he decided to finally put his reflections down on paper. His book is a re-



counting of his own awakening to healthy living with solid practical advice for anyone, as he puts it, to "take or leave." Using his own story as it relates to a number of health issues that affect everyone, he takes on everything from diet to the importance of hydration to weight management.

The dominant message, however, is that the only way to solve the health crisis in this country is to push for a prevention model of health care rather than a curative or crisis model. And the only way to do

that is for each one of us to take personal responsibility for our health.

"It is my personal view that science and curative research is at its best suspect and, at its worst, faulty," he writes in his book. "Our obsession with looking at illness and disease as an enemy to be annihilated has shaped a philosophy which says we must rid ourselves of the enemy at all costs..."

"By putting almost unlimited resources into technology, pharmaceuticals, research and personnel in order to vanquish the enemy, we have created an untenable financial position for ourselves."

His hope is most of us will come to recognize that the health-care industry has little interest in our well being, and that enough of us will be driven to change it, sooner rather than later. While he sometimes despairs of that recognition ever occurring, he says he is "by nature more positive than negative." And he places great hope in the young, who he says are "bright—they're going to make things happen."

But if there's one thing McPherson would like to get across, it's a simple formula summed up by the following word: WISER—drink lots of water, inhale deeply several times a day, slow down and chew your food, exercise body and mind and get enough rest.

"If this is all you learn and all you remember from reading this book, I can guarantee that your life will be enhanced through better health." ■

University of Alberta leads the (United) way

Awards recognize leadership, increased contributions

By Ryan Smith

The University of Alberta has won a handful of awards for its contributions to the 2000 United Way campaign. The university was recently recognized with three awards, including the Leadership Award, at the annual Alberta Capital Region United Way awards ceremony. Lorna Hallam, the U of A's loaned representative from the United Way, was also honoured at the ceremony, winning the George Letki outstanding United Way worker award.

"The U of A runs such fantastic campaigns, that whenever I talk to my colleagues at other regions about how they can deal with education institutions in their area, we use the U of A as a benchmark," said George Andrews, vice-president of resource development with the Alberta Capital Region United Way committee.

The university is not only seen as a

United Way leader in the community, "but also as a leader across the country," Andrews added.

The Leadership Award, based on the number of donors from each institution who give \$600 or more, went easily to the U of A this year. "The U of A, by and large, was the best at promoting this type of giving," Andrews said. "Twice as many U of A employees [209] gave above \$600 compared to its nearest competitors, which include private companies."

The university also won bronze medals in the Award of Distinction and Chairman's Award categories. Surpassing its goal of \$300,000, up from its goal of \$260,000 in 1999, the U of A campaign donations rose to \$366,230.26.

"I think a lot of the U of A's success is related to [Letki Award winner] Lorna

[Hallam]," Andrews said. "She's a leader by action. She goes above and beyond what's expected of a loaned rep, and she's a great ambassador for us and the university."

Anita Moore, administrative assistant in speech pathology and audio and one of four co-chairs for the U of A's 2000 United Way campaign (along with Acting Vice-President (External Affairs) Susan Green, political science professor Allan Tupper and education professor Gordon McIntosh), shares that opinion.

"She's an absolute dynamo," Moore said of Hallam. "A lot of our success has been because she's been seconded to us for three years running, I think, and when she gets here she already has all her contacts set up and she hits the ground running."

Moore said United Way affiliations with U of A programs such as the Turkey Trot, the

Bookstore's Saturday Sampler event, and pumpkin carving contests are examples of ways the U of A campaign always seems to meet its targeted goal. "We start campaigning early, we have a broad approach and we try to be progressive and use technology like the Web, to meet our goals," Moore said, adding that the people at the U of A also cannot be overlooked when praise is parceled out.

"The people at the U of A are exceedingly generous. [The United Way campaign] demonstrates the U of A is committed to serving our community and making it better. It's something we should be very proud of."

The United Way helps fund more than 100 non-profit service groups and agencies, from the Arthritis Society to the Youth Emergency Shelter Society. Last year's campaign raised \$12 million. ■

Professor packages social ailments in single scale

Research paper urges action to be taken on underlying causes

By Phoebe Dey

When a province has a high rate of one social problem—homicide or divorce, for example—it tends to also have high rates of problems in other areas. And a new study by a University of Alberta professor says governments must address underlying regional causes to learn more about the connections between social ailments.

Dr. Gus Thompson, a public health sciences professor, has designed a social problem index to represent the general level of eight social problems across Canada. He combined murder, attempted murder, assault, sexual assault, robbery, divorce, suicide and alcoholism into the index. He found that the eight problems are so closely associated in each region that cross-Canada variation is barely detectable.

Although the problems are highly correlated, provinces have separate services

to deal with each specific problem, says Thompson, who argues that government agencies should address the commonality among the issues.

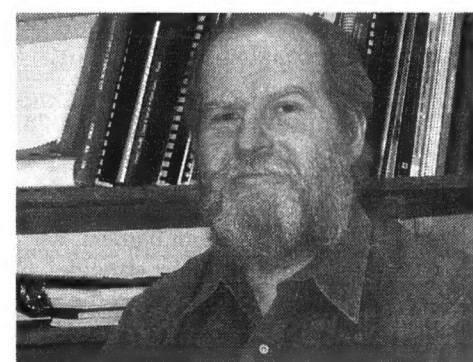
"These results suggest something in our social infrastructure may be dysfunctional. It's difficult to say what this 'something' is, but it is safe to say that when government policies and laws are being developed, the consequences for the social structure that is pertinent to the development of our social lives, are rarely considered," he said.

"Social problems are powerful components of our social fabric, (they) may well be a major determinant of health and are of great public concern," said Thompson. "Social programs are also strongly related to mental health, so this research has several implications."

The social problems also increase from east to west, he said. "Westerly provinces has the highest number of social problems, while the Maritimes had the lowest," said Thompson. "The increase from east to west has been around for several decades and more or less correlates with the pattern of settlement, but no one really knows why the rates get higher as we go west."

Despite a recent downward turn, the rates of social problems are much higher than those just a few decades ago, which suggests action should be taken to stop the problems from increasing, said Thompson.

The index can be used for needs assessments, theoretical studies and as a feedback mechanism to national, provincial and community leaders on the social health of their particular jurisdictions, he said.



Dr. Gus Thompson had developed a social problems index that can be used to measure social health.

Thompson led the study, which is published in the current edition of *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*. Thompson completed the study with Yan Jim from Alberta Health and Dr. Andrew Howard who was at the U of A at the time of the study. ■

Learning compassion, living solidarity

We all must nurture the roots of a peaceful world

By Swee-Hin Toh

Last year, 2000, was the United Nations' International Year for a Culture of Peace, and this year begins the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World. These declarations signal a historic appeal for all nations and peoples to transcend violence and the destructive and painful conflicts of the past centuries.

As this work of peacebuilding expanded, the role of education is now considered indispensable. The work of educators at all levels and modes may not always be as visible as participating in peace rallies and other forms of nonviolent action. Nevertheless, to be effective and sustainable, such actions must be accompanied by education. We need education at all levels and sectors of society to cultivate peaceful values, attitudes and worldviews within individuals, families, communities, institutions and conflicting parties.

My journey in peace education has yielded many inspiring lessons, both in South and North contexts. I arrived at the University of Alberta in the 1970s for my graduate studies in Education. I remember well those days when we patiently stood outside Canadian stores, educating customers not to buy South African products in solidarity with the anti-apartheid movement. Most of us had never been to South Africa, nonetheless, we were moved to join solidarity actions with peoples oppressed by the racist system of apartheid. So it was with joy 30 years later that I could visit a new democratic post-apartheid South Africa.

But many of the most significant lessons in peace education for me have been found in the Philippines where I have collaborated with Filipino colleagues especially in the southern island of Mindanao. Our initial task was to develop a holistic framework for peace education relevant to understanding the complex root causes of violence and conflicts in the Philippines.

In summary, we agreed that peace education begins by educating ourselves on the root causes of all forms of conflicts and violence. Based on this understanding, we are empowered to act for transformation, to change our realities from a culture of violence to a culture of peace. In essence, this framework identified six inter-related themes of issues underpinning violence and conflicts namely,

militarization, structural or socio-economic violence, human rights violations, lack of cultural solidarity, environmental destruction, and loss of personal peace.

But education for peace is not just educating about these issues. How we educate for peace is equally important. Teaching-learning processes based on critical thinking, understanding alternative perspectives, and a participatory learning environment that avoid banking of knowledge are essential in peace education.

My Philippine journey in peace education commenced at Notre Dame University (NDU), a Catholic university enjoying the trust of many Muslim students in a region beset by long-standing armed conflicts between the government and movements seeking Moro secession or autonomy. My NDU colleagues and I developed the first graduate program in peace education in the Philippines and established a pioneering Peace Education Centre. To be holistic, this vision and mission of peace education reached out to as many sectors as possible in the wider Philippine society, including teachers, civil servants, soldiers, religious institutions and NGOs.

Our thoughts and actions in Philippine peace education was guided by the powerful value of compassion, which is not a mere feeling for the suffering of others. Compassion also means a dedicated willingness to build just relationships and systems that uphold human rights for all. Compassion calls on us to deeply respect differences and diversity and care for our mother earth and all its creation as well. In the midst of a culture of violence and materialism, we certainly need to feel compassion for our own spirit and soul, so that it can be nurtured towards growth, tranquility, and enlightenment.

Another crucial value in peace education is solidarity. We care deeply enough for others in suffering that we are willing to dedicate our energies and resources to their struggles for peace, justice and sustainability. Most importantly, we are strongly guided by the principle and value of active non-violence upheld by so many spiritual leaders and teachers like Gandhi. In this regard, it was most inspiring to witness once again last month, the Filipino people remove a President who had lost his moral authority to govern, through a

democratic, nonviolent people power movement.

My work in peace education in the Philippines and other regions has also convinced me that the journey is necessarily slow, demanding much patience and perseverance. Education is inevitably a gradual process of sowing seeds not just in the younger generation but also in today's adults whose decision-making and actions are decisive in shaping the world that our youth will inherit.

My commitment to peace education has also been nurtured in North regions, where a holistic framework of peace education is equally relevant. Many industrialized countries engage in militarization, wars and the arms trade. Despite affluence, there is still poverty and homelessness. The North's role in the global economy and globalization is linked to some root causes of world poverty and inequities. Human rights of specific groups like women, indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, gays/lesbians and the poor remain to be fully upheld. Problems of racism and discrimination persist in multicultural societies. The ecological footprint of North societies remain unsustainably heavy despite some progress in environmental care. Personal peace has not necessarily accompanied a culture of consumerism and wealth-seeking.

Educational institutions have been contributing to peace education in various ways, including courses, research, and curriculum development. Conflict resolution education, exemplified by the ATA's Safe and Caring Schools program, helps children and youth to resolve conflicts constructively and non-violently. Environmental education, already well-known, will need to pose questions about lifestyle consumption and global green justice. Multicultural education ought to go beyond celebration of diversity and should address difficult issues of racism and human rights violations. The university community needs to build on its commendable emergent initiatives in education for a culture of peace and human rights and work towards a systematic integration of peacebuilding principles in all its programs and institutional life. Through international linkage projects organized, for example, by CIED, scholars from South countries have developed interest in and commitment to peace and global education.

In both South and North societies, my experiences have convinced me of the vital role of civil society in awakening citizens and governments to address local and/or global issues of violence, injustices and ecological destruction. In such education for a culture of peace, there are constructive efforts to engage the business sector on issues like corporate social responsibility, ethical investments, fair trade and sweat-shop labour. Peace education for schools and universities therefore should draw on the resources and commitment of many NGOs and community groups active in building a culture of peace.

May I end these reflections by highlighting a very significant signpost in my journey, namely the signpost of spirituality. From my earliest upbringing in the multi-ethnic society of Malaysia to later educational experiences, I have learned much from the wisdom of diverse religions and spiritual beliefs, including indigenous spirituality. I have also come across many peacebuilders whose humanist values are likewise sources of spiritual inspiration. Furthermore, peace education necessarily calls on every faith to engage in self-criticism of contradictions between belief and practice.

As we move into the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World, my prayer is that the responsibilities and challenges of peace education will be infused through ever widening circles of individuals, communities, nations, and global networks. My appeal to the educators and education systems of the world is that we must not only help in the process of transforming minds. We need to also touch and move the hearts and spirit of learners, including ourselves, to weave a personal and global culture of peace. We need to promote learning for compassion, and uphold living in solidarity, so that we can nurture the roots of peaceful persons and a peaceful world. ■

(This is an abbreviated version of a talk given by Dr. Swee-Hin Toh, a University of Alberta Professor in Educational Policy Studies, in a Lecture and Reception organized by the Faculty of Education in recognition of his UNESCO Prize for Peace Education 2000.)

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Cross Cancer expansion will offer unique service and treatment

New imaging centre will be the only one of its kind

By Ryan Smith

If all goes according to plan, by the end of this year patients at the Cross Cancer Institute will receive enhanced treatment unavailable anywhere else in the world. A \$21-million addition, called the Centre for Biological Imaging and Adaptive Radiotherapy, will include the world's first helical tomotherapy machine and Western Canada's first whole-body positron emission tomography (PET) scanner.

There are a handful of institutions around the world with whole-body PET scanners, and some with tomotherapy capability, said Dr. Sandy McEwan, a CCI researcher and professor of radiation oncology at the University of Alberta. "But there is no other place in the world with the two combined," he added. "A lot of people have been coming to us to see what we are doing, though—some people from

Sunnybrooke [Regional Cancer Centre in Toronto] have asked if they can plagiarize our grant application."

The centre will also include a cyclotron, which is a particle accelerator used in concert with the PET scanner to improve diagnosis of tumours. "These innovations combined will make a big difference in patient management," McEwan noted. "They'll be complete unity, from diagnosis to patient treatment to the delivery of treatment—and at each stage there'll be real improvements."

The new equipment will allow more precise controls on radiation treatment capabilities, and more accurate analysis of the radiation's effects.

McEwan said the centre will help the U of A attract and maintain top researchers and doctors. "There is a need for trained

physicians specifically for this equipment, and our facility will be unique in the world for those who are specially trained."

Funding for the 1,500-sq.-metre addition and equipment came jointly from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, Alberta Health and Wellness, Alberta Infrastructure, Alberta Cancer Foundation, Alberta Science and Research Authority, a private donor through the U of A, the Alberta Heritage Medical Foundation for Medical Research, Alberta Innovation and Sciences Research and Investment Program and private industry.

U of A Associate Vice-President (Research) Dr. Bill McBlain said: "Funding partnerships like this are really important, and they are key for making projects like this a reality for the benefit of researchers and the health of Albertans." ■

Passing on a love of science

Killam winner committed to teaching the beauty and importance of chemistry

By Gilbert A. Bouchard

Dr. Martin Cowie, one of eight University of Alberta professors to be awarded this year's Killam Annual Professorship, is a firm believer in the importance of passion and intellectual flexibility in research and teaching.

"I'm a strong believer in doing things for enjoyment," says the professor of chemistry, who has been with the University of Alberta since 1976. "For example, of the 2,200 or more students starting in introductory chemistry at the U of A, most will not become chemists. We owe it to this majority to give them an appreciation of the beauty and importance of the subject," he said.

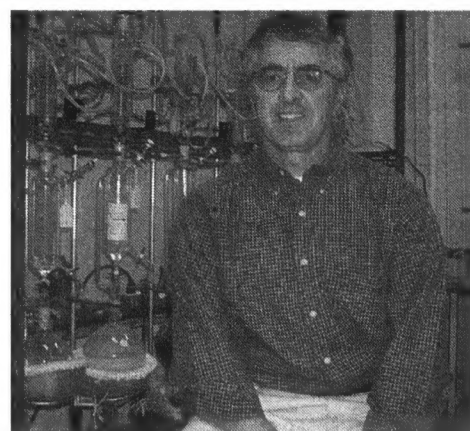
"The challenge for us as teachers is to pass on the love of chemistry-interest them in the subject...I tell my graduate students that we're teaching problem solving. Chemistry is all about looking for solutions, and they'll be able to use that skill no matter what they do."

Cowie is an internationally renowned researcher specializing in the field of chemical reactivity of transition-metal complexes that contain two or more adjacent metals. He's also a dedicated instructor and academic mentor, teaching a number of courses from introductory chemistry to

graduate courses in his areas of specialization and supervising an enthusiastic group of graduate students. But he admits to feeling nervous before teaching his first class of the term, even if it's an introductory course. Teaching provides the professor with a good review of the basics.

Cowie's own career path clearly follows his intellectual bliss. While he was fascinated by inorganic chemistry during his undergraduate years at McMaster University, his graduate studies saw Cowie specialize in chemical crystallography. It was only after taking a faculty position at the U of A that he returned to the study of synthetic inorganic chemistry, utilizing his background in X-ray crystallography as a structural tool.

"I recently came across a Centennial Scholarship application I had completed as an undergraduate in 1968, planning out what I then thought I'd like to do as a graduate student. Although I ended up doing completely different work in graduate studies, I realized that I had inadvertently returned as a professor to my original interests. It's interesting to see how I'd sown these seeds as an undergraduate and that I did eventually come full circle."



Dr. Martin Cowie delights in the thrill of discovery.

While Cowie's research has myriad practical applications in everything from polymers to pharmaceutical and agricultural chemicals, his focus is on the pure science.

"My long-term goal is to understand the functions of adjacent metal sites in bi-metallic catalysts and in the short term, it's understanding the process at all," he jokes.

With more than 120 scientific papers under his belt, Cowie still loves the thrill that follows the realization that you've created a molecule that's never existed before. Yet as fascinated as Cowie is by his chemistry research, he is equally ada-

mant about making sure that he keeps himself intellectually and spiritually fresh, with a diverse set of outside interests. Cowie values physical fitness, cycling to his laboratory and regularly working out. The father of three took early retirement from old-timer's hockey "owing to frustrations with my poor skating ability," but he is able to enjoy the sport vicariously through his sons who "have the skills that I lacked."

Cowie also returns to his love of bird watching and a long-time interest in photography whenever he gets the chance. "I wanted to be an artist in high school, but quickly realized that my talents were limited," he said. "I still enjoy art though and certainly plan on taking up art again when I retire."

Cowie notes that the work he undertakes studying molecular structures does involve some pretty sophisticated visualization and computer-based graphic skills.

The Killam Annual Professorships, established in July 1991, are awards based on scholarly activities such as teaching, research, publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students and courses taught, as well as service to the community beyond the university. ■

Learning the 'language' of bacteria

Researcher investigates the ways bacteria share evolutionary information

By Gilbert A. Bouchard

It's really not all that hard staying fresh in her field of study, says Dr. Diane Taylor, professor of Microbiology and Immunology and one of eight University of Alberta professors to be awarded this year's Killam Annual Professorship.

"It's such a dynamic field," said Taylor, who has been with the U of A since 1981. "The microorganisms we study are always continuing to change." In fact, Taylor's entire career has centered on the ways endlessly "clever" bacteria develop resistance to antibiotics.

Since 1977 Taylor has been exploring how plasmids (self-replicating segments of DNA independent of the bacteria's own chromosomes) work to make bugs drug-resistant and pass along that information to other bacteria. Most of her research focuses on plasmids in *Campylobacter*—a diarrhea-causing family of bacteria—and its resistance to the antibiotic Tetracycline.

These studies are of vast importance given the emergence of the "super-bugs," bacteria with multiple-drug resistance.

"We don't have a big problem with these resistant bacteria in Alberta, which is good on the one hand but makes research harder," she jokes. "It means we have to travel to other countries where they have more resistant bacteria."

In recent years, Taylor has moved into other areas of study, including *Helicobacter pylori*—the recently discovered bacteria that causes stomach ulcers. "At one point, *Helicobacter pylori* was thought to be related to *Campylobacter* which is how I got involved in the studies." Because treatment of *H. pylori* requires a cocktail of multiple antibiotics, resistance is a major concern, she adds.

Taylor convinced Australian researcher Barry Marshall, who first connected *H. pylori* to ulcers, to visit the U of A last year. "It was a great motivator for students here in Alberta," she explains. "Barry's from Perth and it just shows that you can make a difference in research even if you are in an isolated centre."

Taylor loves interaction with students,

seeing them as an intrinsic part of the larger intellectual process that fuels successful research. Her role as a mentor should come as no surprise considering Taylor—who quit high school at 16 to work in a laboratory in 1964—worked up the ranks from the bottom-most rung, relying on the support of "a lot of people I met all the way along."

Endlessly energetic, Taylor has been attracted to research since her first lab job because of the potential the endeavour holds. "It's purely up to you what you do—you just have to go ahead and do it. The sky really is the limit."

A hiking and swimming enthusiast who understands the connection between fitness and efficiency in the laboratory, Taylor also enjoys the travel associated with her research. On her own time, she unwinds with well-crafted mystery novels—an interest she shares with many other researchers. "I like the problem-solving aspect of them," said Taylor.

The Killam Annual Professorships, es-



Dr. Dianne Taylor

tablished in July 1991, are awards based on scholarly activities such as teaching, research, publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students and courses taught, as well as service to the community beyond the university. ■

Stylish law professor takes top faculty teaching honours

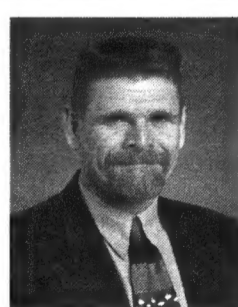
By Geoff McMaster

Wayne Renke describes his teaching style as "a somewhat unsettling combination of dreary lecturing, stand-up comedy and performance art with an exam at the end."

Given the heavy content Renke imparts to his students—criminal law, evidence and intellectual property and jurisprudence—he believes it's important to lighten up the mood every now and then, to keep them engaged.

"The trouble is, my teaching is largely lecture based," he says. "I do try to convey a lot of information and my courses tend to be content heavy. It's hard for people to sit and listen to a steady stream of information for more than 15 minutes—their eyes just glaze, so what you try to do is punctuate the transmission of information with lighter moments."

Obviously it's an approach that works. Students have responded with outstanding course evaluations that resulted in Renke's



Professor Wayne Renke

selection by the University of Alberta's law faculty as the winner of the 2000 Honourable Tevie H. Miller Teaching Excellence Award, presented by the Honourable EA Marshall, Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta.

"The thing that comes out very strongly about Wayne is he's an extremely well-organized, well-prepared professor," says Dean of Law Lewis Klar. "He is very focused in class, and the students find the lectures and materials superb. He deals in provocative areas—in criminal law, for example, which tends to be a controversial area. He seems to engender a lot of discussion, while being respectful to all points of view."

Renke received his B.A., M.A. (philosophy) and bachelor of law degrees all from the University of Alberta (with a master's in law from York University), and was called to the Alberta Bar in 1986. He joined the law faculty here in 1993, after several years of practice.

Since then Renke has served as president of the U of A's Association of Academic Staff (1998-1999), is a member of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee of the Canadian Association of University Teachers and serves on the executive of the Criminal Trial Lawyers Association and the board of the Edmonton Bar Association. Last summer he was seconded to University Hall as special advisor to the vice-president (academic) and provost.

Renke has a wide range of research interests which, Klar says, he's able to effectively convey in the classroom. He has published papers on the disclosure of records in sexual assault cases, the

mandatory reporting of child abuse, judicial independence, dangerous offenders and the commercialization of university research.

"He has a lot of practical experience (in criminal law and evidence) which he's able to weave into his classes, and so the students have a lot of confidence in him," says Klar.

Law student Patrick Duffy, who has had Renke for criminal law and this year for intellectual property law ("by design"), said he appreciates Renke's enthusiasm and the care he takes to make sure students understand difficult material.

"He'll give a humorous hypothetical example," said Duffy, such as dramatizing the police breaking down your door. "I never find myself drifting or falling asleep in his class even if it's a really dry area." He said Renke's sense of humour is "a little different and a little quirky, and at first it takes a bit of getting used to." ■

Law students bring Gale Cup home—for the first time

By Phoebe Dey

Proving practice is not moot, a team of University of Alberta law students recently conquered the courtroom, winning first place in a prestigious national competition.

The team of Robert Palser, Mike Reid, Jeremiah Kowalchuk and Sukhi Sidhu placed first in the National Gale Cup Moot, the first time in its 27-year history that the U of A has won the event. In the primary rounds, the U of A beat the University of Toronto and Queen's University and then prevailed over Dalhousie University, Osgoode Hall and University of Windsor to win the Gale Cup.

Winning the cup was only a matter of time. "Our teams generally have been doing well, coming in second, third or fourth, so ultimately we were going to win one," said Lewis Klar, dean of law. "It's been a team effort, so our students go to competitions really prepared. It's a combination of great students, good coaches and an excellent law school."

Kowalchuk and Palser paired up to form the appellant team—and were chosen to compete in the final round of the simulation—and Reid and Sidhu made up the U of A's respondent team. Students in the faculty competed earlier in the year in an internal competition to decide who would represent the university at moots throughout the year.

Several months ago, participating universities received a copy of the case they would be expected to argue, giving them enough time to submit a written factum and to practice their case. The competition



Jeremiah Kowalchuk, Sukhi Sidhu, Robert Palser, Mike Reid and Tom Ross with the hardware.

is presided over by actual Supreme Court judges, who award points based on each team member's performance and skill. The team was coached by U of A law grad Tom Ross, from the firm of McLennan Ross. Before heading to Toronto the members had five practice rounds with help from faculty members, Alberta judges and lawyers.

Even with all the preparation, facing the Supreme Court judges at the Osgoode Hall Law Society Court House in Toronto was a bit intimidating, said Reid, a second-year law student.

"I was nervous before I spoke, but because our coach was so great at organizing the practice rounds, we were fairly ready," said Reid, who also received the Dickson Medal for the first place oralist. "I found it exciting to be at the court house—you could sense the tradition in the air and it was fun to argue in there. And for all our practices, this was the one that counted." ■

Chief Justice McLachlin meets with law students at her alma mater

By Geoff McMaster

One of the University of Alberta's most distinguished alumni returned to her alma mater recently to share experiences with students of the Faculty of Law.

Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin, in town to deliver a talk at the annual banquet of the *Alberta Law Review*, met with about 200 students in the law centre, fielding questions on everything from the political appointment of judges to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. And she congratulated the students for devoting their lives to a justice system "that has made Canada the envy of the world."

In a country where some have expressed concerns about the transparency of the justice system, McLachlin said she feels it is important for judges to be open and forthcoming to media. "The Canadian people are entitled to know who their judges are and how they arrive at their decisions," she said.

However, she stopped short of expressing personal opinions on any specific cases that have appeared before her court. When asked about the Supreme Court's recent decision not to extradite criminals to countries where they may face the death penalty, and whether notorious serial killer Charles Ng might qualify as an "extraordinary" exception, McLachlin said it's always been her policy not to comment on recent cases because it "might be taken as spin. We have to rely on the decision (to speak for itself)."

McLachlin also rejected the notion that candidates for the Supreme Court should appear before Senate hearings to avoid the possibility of partisan appointments. She said such hearings would reveal little about alleged political or social "agendas" anyway. If asked how they would vote on a given case, most candidates would say, as they have in the United States, that they couldn't comment before actually hearing

it. Otherwise "they'd be subject to the charge they're no longer impartial and therefore can't be a judge," she said.

"I would say to Canadians who are thinking about this, we should be very careful not to put something in place that is worse... (Supreme Court judges) don't have agendas. We hear only cases brought before us... We can't refuse to hear cases and even when courts have spoken, there is still room for the legislature to respond."

Asked what she'd like her legacy to be, McLachlin said she'd like to be seen as having made decisions that meet "not only the short-term but the long-term test" and having promoted a climate that fosters "consultation and debate." But she said her main challenge is to encourage decisions that are "just, fair and wise."

A native of Pincher Creek, Alberta, McLachlin graduated from the U of A's law school in 1968 with a gold medal (she also earned an M.A. in philosophy that same year). She then practiced law in Edmonton, Fort St. John and Vancouver, B.C. before teaching law for six years at the University of British Columbia during the late '70s. In 1981 she was appointed to the County Court of Vancouver.

She has since served on B.C.'s Supreme Court, its Court of Appeal and in 1988 was named chief justice of the Supreme Court of B.C. Her appointment to the Canadian Supreme Court the following year was capped last summer when she was that court's chief justice. ■



Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin

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AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SCIENCE AND DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

March 28, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

The Nutrition and Metabolism Research Group presents Dr. Amy Halseth, Senior Research Scientist, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disease, Pharmacia Corporation, "Interaction of glucose delivery, transport and phosphorylation in the control of skeletal muscle glucose uptake." Classroom D (2F1.04) Walter Mackenzie Centre.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

March 9, 12:00 noon

JC Cahill, "Timing is of the essence: Intra-annual variation in root and shoot competition in an oil-field." Room M-149, Biological Sciences Building.

March 14, 12:00 noon

Hanne Ostergaard, "Activation of cytotoxic T lymphocytes." Room M-141, Biological Sciences Building.

March 15, 4:00 (coffee available at 3:30)

May Berenbaum, "Parsnip webworms and wild parsnips: web sites on the evolutionary highway." Room TBW1, Tory Breezeway.

March 16, 12:00 noon

Chris Johnson, "A Multi-scale Behavioural Approach to Understanding the Movements of Woodland Caribou." Room M-149, Biological Sciences Building.

March 16, 2:30 (refreshments available at 2:00)

May Berenbaum, "Gut reactions—how insects eat plants." Room TL 12, Tory Lecture Theatres.

March 16, 4:00 pm

Valerie Weaver, "The tissue micro-environment, epigenetics and breast cancer: context counts." Room M-149, Biological Sciences Building.

March 21, 12:00 noon

Declan Ali, "Neuromuscular transmission in Zebrafish: secret revelations." Room M-141, Biological Sciences Building.

March 22, 4:00 pm

Josh Jacobs, "Effects of forest removal and wildfire on beetle communities." Room TBW 1, Tory Breezeway.

March 22, 4:00 pm

John Vidmar, "Understanding high-affinity nitrate transport in *Arabidopsis thaliana*: molecular, genetic and physiological approaches." Room M-149, Biological Sciences Building.

March 23, 12:00 noon

Elizabeth Crone, "Movement behaviour and metapopulation dynamics in voles, butterflies and models." Room M-149, Biological Sciences Building.

RU LEMIEUX LECTURE ON BIOTECHNOLOGY

April 5, 4:00 pm

James A Wells, Sunesis Pharmaceuticals, "Binding and Drug Discovery at Molecular Interfaces." Room 2-115 Education North.

CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF UKRAINIAN STUDIES

March 22, 3:30 pm

Dr. Yuriy Shapoval from the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, speaking on "Current Historiography on Totalitarianism in Ukraine: Achievements and Problems" (in Ukrainian). Heritage Lounge, Athabasca Hall.

CENTRE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL STUDIES

March 22, 7:00 pm

Peter Hogg, Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, "The Charter Revolution: Is It Undermined?" McLennan Ross Hall (Room 231/237), Faculty of Law. RSVP 492-5681 or curquhar@law.ualberta.ca

CENTRE FOR HEALTH PROMOTION STUDIES

March 15, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Dr. Clyde Hertzman, Professor of Epidemiology, Department of Health Care & Epidemiology, University of British Columbia, will present a talk entitled "Early Child Development as a Determinant of Health." Room 2-115 Education North.

March 22, 12:00 to 1:00 pm

Research Symposia Series, Margaret MacCabe, "Sexuality and Sexual Health after Spinal Cord Injury: a phenomenological study of women's experiences." Room 6-10 University Extension Centre.

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON LITERACY

March 21, 12:30 to 2:00 pm

Frank Jenkins, Oliver Lantz, "Portraying a View of the Nature of Science in Textbook Discourse." Room 651a Education South. As lunch will be catered, please RSVP by Monday, March 19 to Paula Kelly, 492-4250, extension 292, or paula.kelly@ualberta.ca

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING SCIENCE

March 19, 3:30 pm

Christos Faloutsos, Carnegie Mellon University, "Searching and Data Mining in Multimedia Databases." Room B2, Computing Science Centre.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, EDMUND KEMPUS

BROADS LECTURES

March 9, 3:30 pm

Patricia Clements, "The Liberal Arts in a World of Difference." Humanities Centre L-1.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

March 9, 11:00 am

Dr. Dawne McCance, "Crossing Literature and Philosophy in Derrida's *Glas*." Room 4-29 Humanities Centre.

March 12, 2:00 pm

Yvonne Trainer doing a reading. Room 4-29 Humanities Centre.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND STUDIES CENTRE

March 22, 4:30 pm

Dr. Cliff Wallis, "Protecting Wildlands through the Power of the Marketplace." Students' Union Building, Alumni Room.

JOHN DOSSETOR HEALTH ETHICS CENTRE

March 16, 12:00 to 1:00 pm

Dr. Mary Lou Cranston, "Role of the Ethics Committee: Is It Time to Re-Evaluate?" Room 207, Heritage Medical Research Centre.

HISTORY AND CLASSICS

March 15, 3:30 pm

Brad Inwood, Professor of Classics, University of Toronto, "Reason, Rationalization and Happiness in Seneca." (Co-sponsored with the Department of Philosophy.) Room 2-58 Tory Building.

MEDICINE

March 14, noon

Dr. Jeff Reading, "Research and the Aboriginal Health Agenda." Classroom D, Walter Mackenzie Centre.

March 14, 4:00 pm

Dr. Jeff Reading, "Personnel Capacity Building in Aboriginal Health." Bernard Snell Hall.

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March 15, 10:30 am to 3:30 pm
University of Alberta Forum on Aboriginal Health Research. Dr. Malcolm King, "Introduction to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research." Dr. Jeff Reading, "The Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health." Classroom F, Walter Mackenzie Centre.

MODERN LANGUAGES

March 15, 3:00 pm
Markus Reisenleitner, Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies, "Once Upon a Time: The Commodification of the Middle Ages in German Historical *Trivialromane* around 1800." Senate Chamber, 326 Arts Building.

March 21, 3:00 pm
Raleigh Whiting, "Rolf Thiele's Film Version of Thomas Mann's *Homotext Tonio Kröger*: A Reconsideration." 103 Arts Building.

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

March 9, 3:30 p.m.
Paul Rusnock, "Bolzano on Intuitions." Humanities Centre 4-29.

March 12, 4:00 pm
Robert M. Harnish, University of Arizona, on "The Major and Minor Moods of English." Department of Linguistics Colloquium. Room 4-70 Assiniboia Hall.

March 13, 3:30 pm
Robert M. Harnish, on "Grasping Modes of Presentation: Frege and his Critics." Department of Philosophy Colloquium. Room 4-29 Humanities Centre.

March 14, 4:00 pm
Robert M. Harnish, on "The Nature and Origins of the Computational Theory of Mind." Open Lecture. Humanities Centre Lecture Theatre 3.

March 15, 10:00 am to 12 noon
Robert M. Harnish, on "Mood and Modularity." Department of Psychology. CW410 Biological Sciences Centre.

March 16, 3:30 p.m.
William Ian Miller, University of Michigan Law School. Humanities Centre 4-29.

FACULTY OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION

March 22, 3:30 pm
Dr. Mary McDonald, Miami University, "Queering Whiteness: The Peculiar Case of the Women's National Basketball Association." Room E431, Van Vliet Centre.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

March 9, 3:15 pm
Dr. Robert A. Wolkow from the Steacie Institute for Molecular Sciences, National Research Council of Canada, speaking on "A Step Toward Making and Wiring-up Molecular-Scale Devices with a Self-Directed Growth Process." Room V-129 Physics Building.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

March 15, 3:30 pm
David Kahane, "Democratic Deliberation Across Cultures." Room 10-4 Tory Building.

March 22, 3:30 pm
Fred Engelman, "The Austrian Parties and Current Events in Austrian Politics." Room 10-4 Tory Building.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES, EPIDEMIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

March 15, 12:00 noon
Gian Jhangri, "Repeated Measures Analysis." Classroom F, 2J4.02 Walter Mackenzie Centre.

March 22, 12:00 noon
Andrew Travers, "Informed consent and re-

search in emergency medicine." Classroom A, 2F1.01 Walter Mackenzie Centre.

RURAL ECONOMY

March 13, Noon
Robert Romain, "Assessing Technical Efficiency of Quebec Dairy Farms." Room 550, General Services Building.

DEPARTMENT OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES

March 15, 12:30 to 1:50 pm
Dr. Guy S. Swinnerton, "Protected landscapes in Canada: An examination of the use of the IUCN's Protected Areas Management Category V." Room 2-36 Earth Sciences Building.

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, 75TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURE

March 9, 7:30 pm
Dr. John Kaltner, Rhodes College, Memphis, on "Ishmael Instructs Isaac: towards and understanding of the Koran for Christians." Room 2-115 Education North.

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

March 16, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
The 15th Annual Professional Development Day. Theme: "Advocacy: Thinking Beyond the Box." Guest speakers: Dr. Roma Harris, Michael Sambir and Christ Hammond-Thrasher. Map Room, Lister Hall.

SCHOOL OF NATIVE STUDIES

March 9, 2:30 to 4:30 pm
Crystal Janvier, "The Role of a Holistic Healing Centre for Youth in Crisis." Room 2-14 Humanities Centre.

Sally Warr, "Indigenous World Views and Resource Development Conflicts." Room 2-14 Humanities Centre.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING SERVICES

March 12, 3:00 to 4:30 pm
Carolyn Kreber, Educational Policy Studies, on "Fostering Students' Self-direction in Learning." Room 281 Central Academic Building.

March 13, 4:15 to 6:15 pm
Greg Cole, Academic Technologies for Learning, on "Managing Student Marks with Excel II (Intermediate)." Room Technology Training Centre.

March 14, 4:15 to 6:15 pm
Brad Hestbak, External Affairs, on "PowerPoint for Beginners." Room Technology Training Centre, Cameron Library.

March 15, 3:00 to 4:30 pm
Patricia Sears, Specialized Support and Disability Services, on "Inclusion: The Ripple Effect." Room 281 Central Academic Building.

March 16, 12:05 to 1:00 pm
Rod Wood, Law, on "Challenging the Way we do Things." Room 219 Central Academic Building.

March 19, 3:30 to 4:30 pm
Karla Verschoor, Students' Union, on "Customize and Consolidate Your Handouts." Room 281 Central Academic Building.

March 20, 3:00 to 4:30 pm
Mike Enzle, Research and External Affairs, on "Successful Human Ethics Review Proposals." Room 281 Central Academic Building.

March 21, 3:30 to 4:30 pm
Don Carmichael, AAS:UA and Chris Samuel, Students' Union, on "Don't be Roadkill on the Evaluation Highway." Room 281 Central Academic Building.

March 22, 3:00 to 4:30 pm
Carolyn Kreber, Educational Policy Studies, on "Learning Style Differences." Room 281 Central Academic Building.

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Professor of Epidemiology, Department of Health Care & Epidemiology
University of British Columbia

Early Child Development as a Determinant of Health

Don't miss this dynamic presentation by internationally renowned researcher, Dr. Clyde Hertzman. In his capacity as Director of the Program in Population Health, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Dr. Hertzman played a central role in developing the conceptual framework for the determinants of health. He also serves as Co-Chair of the National Healthy Child Development Strategy for the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Advisory Committee on Population Health. With outstanding research contributions in these areas, Dr. Hertzman is eminently qualified to speak about the special role of early childhood development as a determinant of health.



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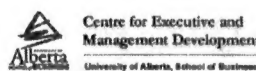
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IN MEMORIAM

JONES, DR. RICHARD NORMAN OC, FRSC

On Saturday, February 17, 2001, Norman Jones passed away peacefully a month shy of his 88th birthday.

He is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Magda (Kemeny), two sons, Kem (Donna) and David (Chris), five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Born and educated in Manchester, England (B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D. and Doctor of Science), Norman spent most of his life dedicated to chemistry, particularly spectroscopy and the importance of computers in handling data, at the National Research Council in Ottawa. Internationally renowned for his research, Norman made a number of important discoveries, produced more than 300 research publications and represented Canada on many international organizations.

After his official retirement from NRC in 1978 he and Magda traveled extensively as he continued his research and teaching, including three years at the Tokyo Institute of Technology. In 1992 they moved to Edmonton where he continued his academic work as a Guest Scientist with the Chemistry Department at the University of Alberta.

Recognized for his contribution through many professional awards and two honorary degrees, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1999.

A memorial celebrating his life will be held at Garneau United Place, 11148 - 84 Ave., Edmonton, on Saturday, March 17, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to a memorial fund established in his name at the Department of Chemistry, University of Alberta [contact: Claudia Wood (780) 492-6662 or e-mail claudia.wood@ualberta.ca].

events

AWA BANQUET

ACADEMIC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, April 24, 2001, 7:00 p.m.

Annual General Meeting of the Academic Women's Association/Woman of the Year Award Dinner. Papaschase Room, Faculty Club. Please contact Patricia Valentine, patricia.valentine@ualberta.ca, to join AWA and attend the AWA banquet.

STRICKLAND DINNER

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Thursday, March 15, 5:30 p.m. (no host bar),
6:30 p.m. (dinner)

To make reservations contact: Andy Keddie, extension 0455 or 451-0939 or e-mail: andy.keddie@ualberta.ca or Felix Sperling, extension 3991 or email: felix.sperling@ualberta.ca. Reservations should be made as early as possible and no later than Monday, March 12! Cost is \$30 for meals. A receipt will be provided on payment. Faculty Club, Papaschase Room (upstairs).

EXHIBITION

MCMULLEN GALLERY, U OF A HOSPITAL

February 3 to March 31, 2001

Painters Dick Der, Robert von Eschen, Bernie Hippel, Julian Brezdan, and Ruby Mah create a visual feast for the eyes and soul in "Miscellaneous Connections." Gallery hours: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 8 p.m. 8440 - 112 Street. For more information, contact Michelle Casavant or Susan Pointe. Phone 407-7152 or email: spointe@uah.ab.ca

EXHIBITION

FINE ARTS BUILDING (FAB) GALLERY

February 13 to March 11, 2001

The Office of Native Student Services and the Department of Art and Design are honoured to present "Millennium Tribute to the Dene Uranium Ore Carriers of Denendeh: A Multi-Media Exhibit." Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.. Closed Monday, Saturday, and Statutory Holidays. 112 Street and 89 Avenue. Phone 492-2081.

EXHIBIT

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN ECOLOGY & THE CLOTHING AND TEXTILE COLLECTION

February 1 to March 31, 2001

Exhibit "Who Wears the Pants? Gender Roles and Clothing Communication." The exhibit explores how clothing, throughout the twentieth century, reflects changing gender roles in Canadian society. Exhibit hours: Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.. Human Ecology Building. For more information, please contact: Shawna Lemiski, (780) 492-2528.

SATELLITE EVENT

CENTRE FOR EXECUTIVE AND MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

March 28, 8:50 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Dr. Ken Blanchard: "Creating High Five Teams." Dr. Ken Blanchard's latest strategies based on his new book "High Five!" can help you create team power, a sense of purpose, shared values, and goals. Visit www.bus.ualberta.ca/cemd or call (780) 492-3860 for more information. Telus Centre Auditorium.

STANDARD FIRST AID/HEARTSAVER COURSES

The Office of Environmental Health & Safety has arranged for Standard First Aid/Heartsaver courses to be held on campus once again this year. The training is comprised of two full-day sessions (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) with morning, lunch and afternoon breaks. The cost is \$80.00 per person. The first course will be held in early April and the last at the end of October. Registration is limited due to classroom size. For further information and registration forms please call Cindy Ferris at 492-1810 or e-mail cindy.ferris@ualberta.ca

SYMPOSIUM

LACANAIA PSYCHOANALYSIS: RESEARCH IMPLICATIONS FOR CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Saturday, March 10, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Centre for Research for Teacher Education and Development presents symposium. Room 358/366 Education South. Undergraduate and graduate students free. Colleagues \$10.00. Guest speakers include Mark Bracher, Doug Aoki, Paul Nonnekes, Dianne Chisholm, Henry Klumpenhouwer, and Derek Briton.

FACULTY OF NURSING

MARGARET SCOTT RESEARCH DAY

Tuesday, March 13, 9:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Place: Bernard Snell Hall. For more information please contact Winnie or Elaine, 492-5617.

OBSERVATORY

Campus Astronomical Observatory is open to the campus community and the general public every Thursday evening (except exam and holiday periods) beginning at 8 p.m. Entrance to the Physics Building is via the northeast door or via the V-wing. For information call 492-5286.

MUSIC

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

March 10, 6:30 p.m.

The Annual Dinner Concert and Auction of the University of Alberta Madrigal Singers, Leonard Ratzlaff, conductor. Empire Ballroom, Hotel Macdonald. Admission: \$60/person. For tickets and further information, please call 492-5306.

March 11, 8:00 p.m.

The University of Alberta Academy Strings, Tanya Prochazka, conductor.

March 12, 12:10 p.m.

Noon-Hour Organ Recital. Free admission.

March 15, 7:30 p.m.

World Music Concert featuring Wajjo African Drummers & Kekeli African Dancers.

March 21, 8:00 p.m.

The University of Alberta Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Fordyce Pier, director.

March 23, 8:00 p.m.

Music at Convocation Hall featuring visiting artist Donna Brown, soprano with Stéphane Lemelin, piano.

March 24, 7:00 p.m.

Northern Alberta Honor Band, Fordyce Pier, director. Free admission.

Unless otherwise indicated: Admission \$5/student/senior, \$10/adult. Convocation Hall, Arts Building. To confirm concert information, please call 492-0601.

PHILOSOPHER'S CAFÉ

Saturday, March 10, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Topic: Is political correctness stifling our society? Guest scholar: Pablo Martin de Holan, Professor in the Faculty of Business and Faculté Saint-Jean. Moderator: Bernard Linsky, Chair of Philosophy. Fioré Cantina Italiana, 8715 - 109 Street.

positions

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FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY PROJECT LIAISON OFFICER

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry is seeking a Project Liaison Officer to assist the Faculty and the University in the planning, design and construction of the Health Research and Innovation Facility.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA PAYROLL COMPTROLLER

Applications are invited for the position of Payroll Comptroller reporting to the Chief Financial Officer and Associate Vice President. The incumbent leads and provides strategic direction to a large department responsible for the university's payroll services and reporting functions. The Payroll Comptroller has an ongoing role to improve and make

payroll processes responsive to the needs of the university community. The position also plays an integral part in providing key information used in the university's decision-making processes. The Comptroller will be responsible for the effective and efficient use of financial resources.

The incumbent's department processes payroll for regular and temporary support staff, academics, sessionals and student employees, generating approximately 12,000 payments monthly. The Payroll Comptroller insures that all federal and provincial requirements and commitments are met as well as providing correct information to our benefit carriers.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- A degree in Business; accounting designation preferred.
- Extensive management experience in payroll and benefits in large, complex organizations preferably in a PeopleSoft/ERP environment.
- Extensive knowledge of organizational change, best practice research, benchmarking methodology and process re-engineering/improvement.
- Proven experience in challenging the existing culture. Proven ability to manage and lead change.

This Administrative Professional Officer position has a salary range of \$56,453 - \$89,381 along with a comprehensive benefits package.

Applications, including a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees should be sent by March 16, 2001 to:

Mr. Nazim Merali
Chief Financial Officer and
Associate Vice-President
Office of the Vice-President
(Finance and Administration)
1-3 University Hall
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Ab.

Please note we wish to thank all applicants, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

NOTICE

In the February 23 edition of *Folio*, a position was advertised under the heading Organizational Effectiveness Manager. This position was posted prematurely and is being withdrawn. Human Resources apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused.

notices

Please send notices attention Folio 400 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, T6G 2E8 or e-mail publicaffairs@ualberta.ca. Notices should be received by 3 p.m. one week prior to publication.

LIVE-IN CAREGIVER STUDY

Have you hired a foreign-born live-in caregiver in the past five years?

Changing Together... A Centre for Immigrant Women invites you to participate in a study about the Live-In Caregiver Program. We would like to know more about the experiences of employers of live-in caregivers, their views on the program and their experiences with resident caregivers.

Call Dr. Denise L. Spitzer at 492-0139 to learn more about the study and how you can take part. Your participation will be kept completely confidential. Funding for this project has been provided by Status of Women Canada and Health Canada.

MACTAGGART WRITING AWARD

Faculty of Arts students are advised of an essay writing competition to be held this spring. This competition is to encourage students to gain an appreciation of the joys of creative writing and travel. There are no prescribed topics for the essay. Prize value (up to \$10,000.00) is dependent upon the travel plans proposed by the winner.

For judging criteria and further information, please contact the Faculty of Arts. The deadline is Friday April 27, 2001 at noon. Essays must be submitted to: Office of the Dean of Arts, 6-33 Humanities Centre. Winners will be announced approximately mid-September.

NOMINATIONS FOR 3M TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS SOUGHT

The University of Alberta has received 22 awards during the 15-year existence of the national 3M Teaching Fellowships Program. In conjunction with the start of the 2001 competition, Bente Roed, director, University Teaching Services, says, "we have many other outstanding instructors who want identification and nominations."

The fellowships are awarded by the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and 3M Canada Inc. Any individual currently teaching at a Canadian university (regardless of dis-

cipline or level of appointment) is eligible. An exclusive three-day (Nov. 4 - 6, 2001), all-expenses-paid retreat at the Chateau Montebello is the main component of the award.

Up to 10 awards are given annually. Nomination forms are available at UTS, 215 Central Academic Building, 492-2826. Dossiers are to reach the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education by May 11, 2001, but if a letter from the Vice President (Academic) is required, the nomination package must reach UTS by April 24, 2001. ■

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Point counterpoint

By Richard Cairney

University of Alberta Fencing Club coach Mariek Chruscinski is putting more than a dozen students through warm-up drills in the Van Vliet Centre fencing studio. Students pair up and hold hands, twirling one another, spinning through the studio like thunderous dervishes. Next, it's on to a sort of two-man game of crack-the-whip, with students flinging their partners ahead, then being dragged from behind. Later still, they are towed behind their partners, frog-hopping the length of the studio.

"Everybody please—pulling and jumping, pulling and jumping. Yes?" Chruscinski says, his voice ringing through the room. "Excellent. Excellent."

The warm-up is exhaustive. Students sit cross-legged, facing one another, playing a game of Pat-a-Cake. "Fast as possible," Chruscinski says, "Until someone gets hit in the face. Yes."

Eventually, he tells the students to fetch their gear. "I can't make too much torture. You have to have fun, too."

The students don masks and blades—foils, epees and sabres to be precise—and begin to practice a centuries-old martial art.

Peter Jarvis, a planning technologist in the university's planning services office is getting back into the sport for the first time since his days as a high school student in Fort St. John, B.C. back in 1964.

"It's a beautiful sport. And it's very primitive. It's fight or flight, but centuries ago it was developed into a high art. The kind of fencing you see here doesn't make for good movies. Over in the drama

department they teach them slash, slash, slash, so the whole audience can see you." The closest most

people get to fencing is the swordplay they see in films. "The new Star Wars movie is the best sabre-fighting I've ever seen," says Fencing Club vice president Mark Samuel.

Mark Samuel's family involvement with the club goes back some time, too. The 26-year-old education grad is a three-time winner of the club's Wetterberg trophy—which his uncle won in 1973, and which his grandfather won "in the late 30s or early 40s."

This is how small the global fencing community is: Samuel's father, who was also a club member during the 1970s, was a friend of Bob Anderson, the fencing coach who choreographed light-sabre fights in the original *Star Wars*. Anderson also stood in for actor David Prowse, as Darth Vader, in fight scenes. ("When I met him, it was kind of a disappointment because I thought I was going to meet Darth Vader, in a cape and everything," Samuel recalls.)

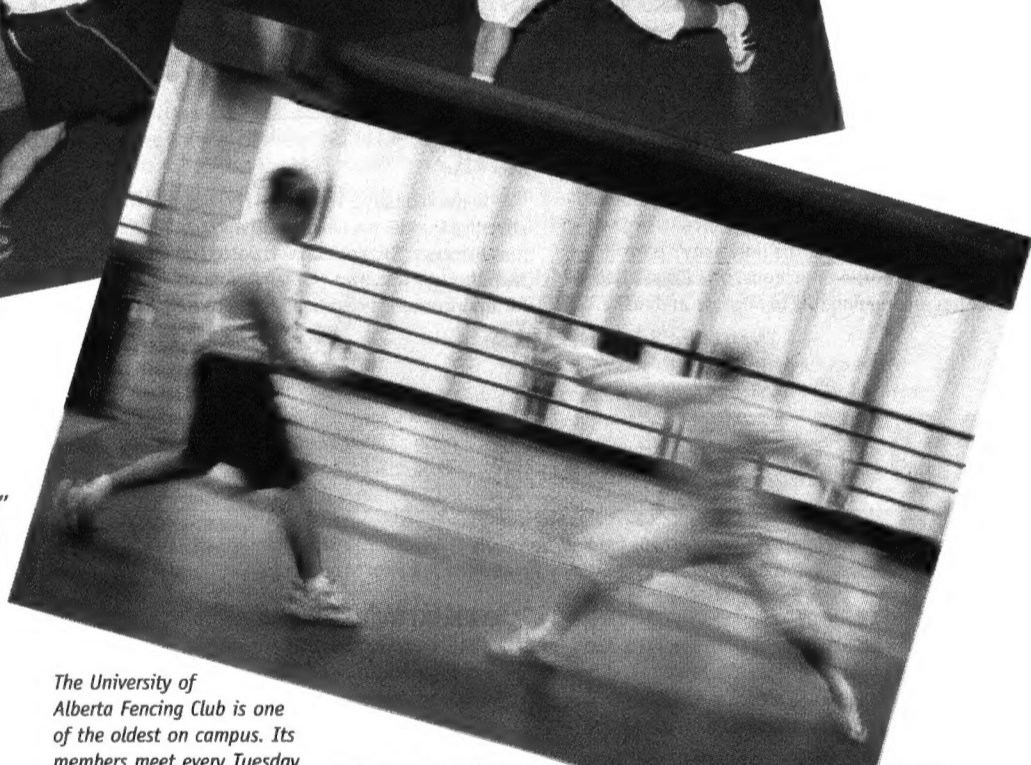
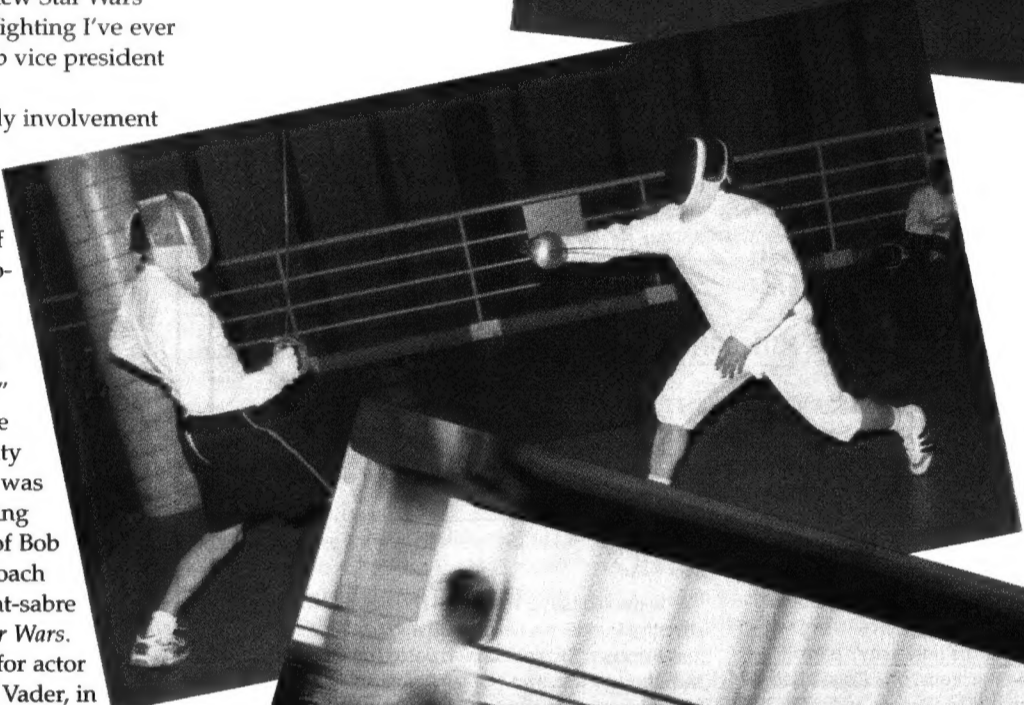
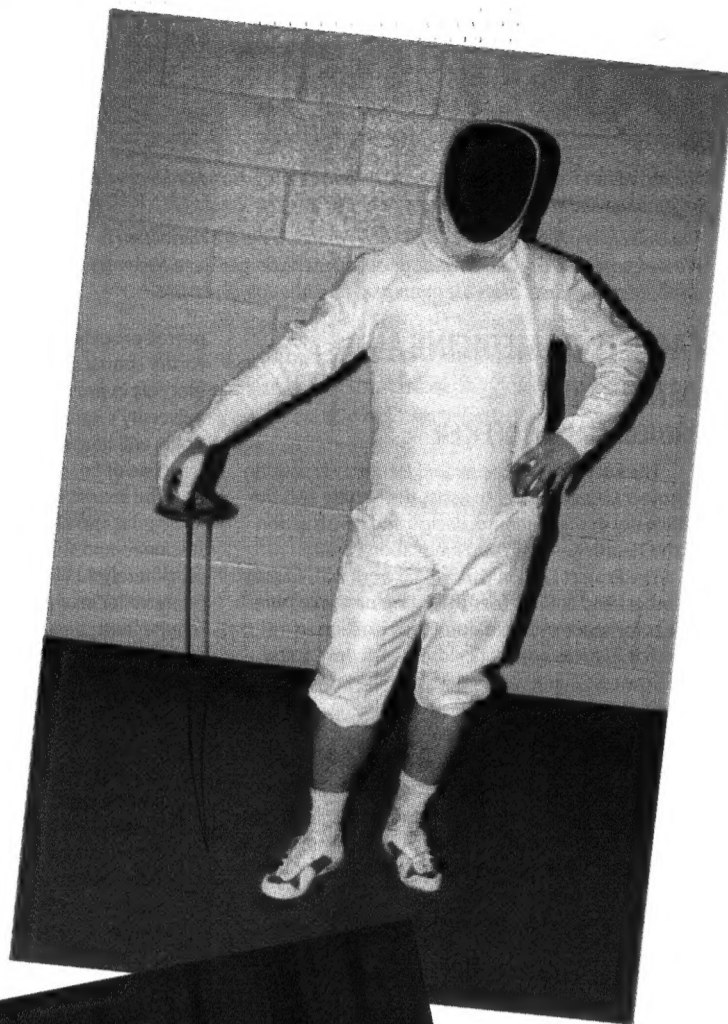
Samuel hasn't been in films, but he did upset "a bunch of guys with Uzis" at an airport in Rome while checking his weaponry through a metal detector. So he has traveled as a fencer. He competed in the under-17 age group in Italy after placing third in Canada.

What is it about the sport that has held Samuel's attention all these years?

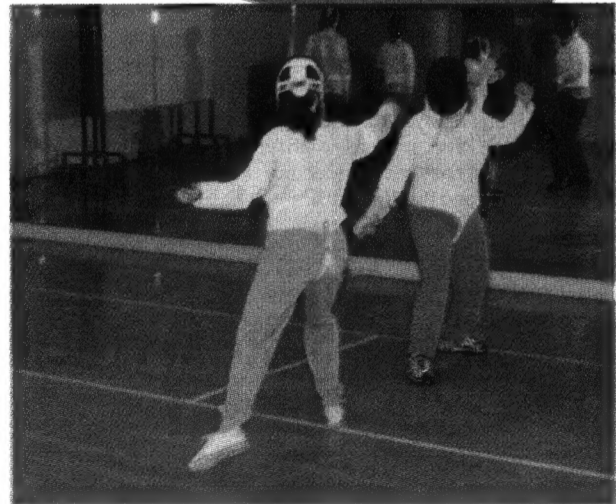
"It's the coolest sport in the world," he declares. "It is always changing, depending on who you are fencing with. It has so many different qualities in training and technique in terms of moves and footwork and how you use the blade. And there is a whole level of strategies—how you put it all together."

A fencing match involves a lot of tension that suddenly explodes in a flash of strategy. It is, Samuel says, a very fast chess game.

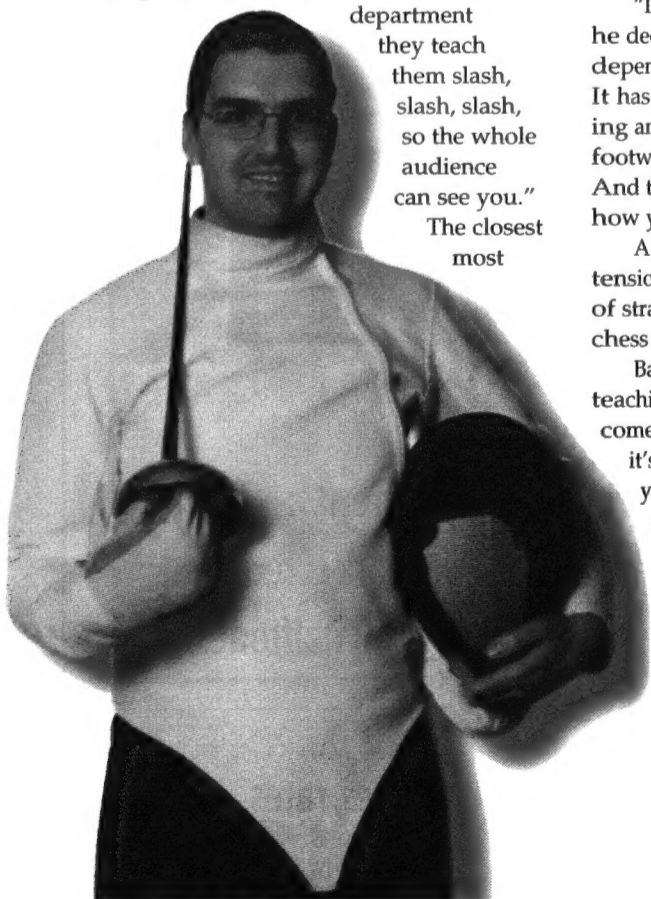
Back in the studio, Chruscinski is teaching strategy. "Now if I do this, you come in here," he says to a student. "But it's a trick. But if you know it is a trick, you go there instead of here and then?" he says, exposing himself to a fatal blow. "There is a great big fat opening for you." ■



The University of Alberta Fencing Club is one of the oldest on campus. Its members meet every Tuesday and Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. in the Van Vliet Centre.



Photos: Light F/X Photography



Mark Samuel

folio **back**
page